

Reflection

Of Love

by Mary Oliver

(from New and Selected Poems, 1992, Beacon Press, Boston, MA)

I have been in love more times than one, thank the Lord. Sometimes it was lasting whether active or not. Sometimes it was all but ephemeral, maybe only an afternoon, but not less real for that. They stay in my mind, these beautiful people, or anyway beautiful people to me, of which there are so many. You, and you, and you, whom I had the fortune to meet, or maybe missed. Love, love, love, it was the core of my life, from which, of course, comes the word for the heart. And, oh, have I mentioned that some of them were men and some were women and some — now carry my revelation with you — were trees. Or places. Or music flying above the names of their makers. Or clouds, or the sun which was the first, and the best, the most loyal for certain, who looked so faithfully into my eyes, every morning. So I imagine such love of the world — its fervency, its shining, its innocence and hunger to give of itself — I imagine this is how it began.



Dear Fellow CSD Members & Friends,

Happy Easter! There is nothing more graced as a director than to be enlivened by a graced experience of a directee. That moment when the directee is filled with the love of the Spirit. As Mary Oliver writes of seeing all of creation, she also is aware of how all created beings see her. Such thin places are moments of intimacy. The Easter Vigil readings invite us to celebrate with our sisters and brothers, that is, all created beings, to see them as God sees them with an alluring and desirous love and live lovingly and continually in God's creative and evolving work.

We are also celebrating a creative and enduring work, that is, the existence of CSD, which celebrates its 30th birthday this year. We are holding a commemorative seminar presented by Tony Hempenstall cfc on Saturday 30th April 2016 at Treacy Centre in Parkville, Melbourne. We are hoping that many people can come and celebrate this significant event in the Association's history. We would welcome any interstate visitors who can make the journey.

Looking forward to seeing you there!

Tim Moloney cfc, *National Chair, CSD*

**CSD National Gathering, Melbourne,
Saturday 30 April 2016,
9.30am for 10am start till 3pm followed
by afternoon tea**

As you are aware, to mark CSD reaching 30 years, we are holding a National Gathering on 30 April 2016 in Melbourne.

We are delighted to hold the event at Treacy Centre's delightful 1880's mansion in Parkville, surrounded by beautiful manicured gardens. (See www.treacycentre.com.au)



Our dynamic speaker, Br Tony Hempenstall cfc, will guide us through our day on 'The Unfolding of Love: Implications for Spiritual Direction in the 21st Century'.

The day will generally follow the program below and will include time for small groups and reflection:

9.30am-10am	Arrivals
10am-10.10am	Welcome (Tim Moloney)
10.10am-10.30am	CSD 30 Years: Stepping Stones (Brian Gallagher)
10.30am-11.30am	Topic (1)
11.30am-12noon	Tea break
12noon-1pm	Topic (2)
1pm-2pm	Lunch
2pm-3pm	Topic (3)
3pm-4pm	Close/Afternoon tea

Thank you for all your bookings so far. We look forward to seeing you all on the 30th. This is a great opportunity to hear an engaging speaker, participate in reflection groups and sharing, and enjoy each other's company, insights and wisdom!

Come and celebrate our 30 years!

Report from TAS - Spiritual Directors' Weekend

From 4th - 6th March 2016, a group of Tasmanian directors, past and present, were greatly blessed by a weekend on "Using the Enneagram in Spiritual Direction". Some 20 people met at the Emmanuel Centre, Newstead. Our facilitators were the Josephite sisters, Colleen O'Sullivan and Mary Hagan.

Our knowledge of the enneagram, and our ability to apply it productively to the directee / director relationship, was much enhanced by this weekend. Colleen and Mary shared generously from their own depth of experience and practice and familiarity with the available enneagram literature. Their core texts were Susan Zuercher, *Enneagram Companions* and Karen Webb, *Principles of the Enneagram*.

The program unfolded in a measured, well-paced, contemplative fashion. Each session began with a time of silent contemplation and / or an appropriate song. These were mainly chosen from Kevin Bates' enneagram songs. Backgrounding and providing a common focus for our prayer, contemplation, meditation, study, sharing

and conversation through the weekend was Mary Oliver's poem, "The Journey".

Colleen and Mary helped us to explore the use of the enneagram in our spiritual direction practice through their approach - firstly they discussed some aspects of a typical director in each of the three triads, heart, head and gut. This was most valuable, especially as they themselves represented two of these triads.

Next, they turned the spotlight on to potential ways that directees in the three triads might approach direction, and also how we as directors might invite them to growth in their spiritual journeys.

Their presentations were a balanced mix of giving factual information and allowing for group participation and response to this. They invited the group to make notes with comments, reflections and questions on the outline sheets provided - this active learning process was much appreciated.

Participants found the two main small group sessions invaluable. The first one was a meeting of 'like' centres, the gut, head and heart people met together - the groups identified their space and discussed what

resonated with them, what they had discovered about themselves and other issues that arose.

On the second day, we met in triads, each of which included a representative of one of the three numbers within each centre. Through intentional listening and responding to each other's stories, we were invited to notice how the various centres

approached the tasks of telling and listening.

The concluding session enabled each individual to share the highlights of this weekend with the whole group. Previously Mary and Colleen had not presented together for a whole weekend - the fruits of their collaboration deserves a much greater audience. (*Annie Brush*)

Women's Weekend Retreat at Pallotti College, Millgrove, Melbourne
Fri night 13 - Sun 15 May 2016

Pallotti College will hold a women's retreat 'Discovering the Sacred Space Within' on 13-15 May 2016.

From the flyer: *'Amidst the clamour of life as women - friend, student, workmate, mother, partner, daughter - how easily we forget the spark that burns within us, urging us to become all that we are capable of being! Based on the book 'Women Who Run with the Wolves' and using scripture, images and music, the sessions include opportunity for group discussion as well as plenty of time for personal reflection and quiet. Come along and enjoy a gentle and uplifting weekend.'*

Information and bookings to: Lorraine McCarthy, 0402 217 123 or lorraine613@bigpond.com



Professional & Personal Development for Spiritual Directors, Mon 27 Jun-Fri 1 Jul 2016, at Heart of Life, Box Hill, Melbourne

This is a five-day intensive refresher program in spiritual direction, suitable for those active in the ministry, and others returning to the ministry after some time away. Places now filling.

Information and application forms are available from Heart of Life, tel 03 9890 1101, email holsc@bigpond.com



'Let the Heart Listen' Seminar at Heart of Life, Box Hill, Melbourne - Thursdays 9.30am-12.30pm, 21 Jul-10 Nov (except Sept term break)

We are pleased to advise that this seminar will be offered in Semester 2 at Heart of Life.

'Let the Heart Listen' is a contemplative process of listening to oneself, to others, and to the Divine Presence within.

Information and application forms are available from Heart of Life, tel 03 9890 1101, email holsc@bigpond.com

DATES TO NOTE in 2016:

19 May	Reference Group Meeting
14 Jul	Reference Group Meeting
8 Sep	Reference Group Meeting
17 Nov	Reference Group Meeting